

# **GREATER WATERBURY BOARD OF REALTORS®**

## **Statement on**

### **H.B. 6015: An Act Prohibiting the Charging of Fees for the Dispatch of Emergency Services in Response To 9-1-1 Calls**

#### **SUPPORT**

Submitted to the Public Safety Committee  
February 7, 2013

**By Sharon Hallock**  
**Association Executive Vice President**

Good day. I'm Sharon Hallock, the Association Executive for the Greater Waterbury Board of REALTORS®.

For the past several years, Waterbury REALTORS® have worked constructively with Representative Larry Butler to revitalize our urban neighborhoods and enact a pilot urban homesteading bill. Representative Butler's proposed bill, House Bill 6015, to eliminate town fees in 9-1-1 calls, is needed and should be approved by this committee.

You've heard from others why such ordinances are counterproductive and confusing. I just want to give you a broader perspective on why REALTORS®, including those outside of New Britain, find them distasteful.

First, we are apprehensive that many towns will use them more as "revenue raisers" than as ways to regulate nuisances. You should know that New Britain's "hot spot" ordinance was coupled with a rental housing licensing law, originally charging \$150 per rental unit.

Second, rental housing owners already fund police and fire department budgets with property tax dollars. The kinds of nuisances that hot spot ordinances address should be governed by nuisance abatement laws on the books.

Thank you for your consideration. Are there any questions?